

MEMO

Submitted by: Judy Kelly, Director
San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Subject: Executive Board Approval for Contract with Ca Dept. of Fish & Game
and Approve a Resolution

Date: May 4, 2010

Executive Summary

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) actively participates in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan efforts as well as carrying forward the State's efforts of the former CALFED ERP (Ecosystem Restoration Program). As such, DFG has significant interest in how tidal marsh restoration can contribute to recovery of listed fish species. The CALFED Science Program initiated the \$3.7 million *Integrated Regional Wetland Monitoring (IRWM) Pilot Project* in 2003. IRWM undertook an intensive two-year field data collection program at six tidal marsh sites from the western Delta to the Petaluma River, spanning a large segment of the Estuary's salinity gradient. Four sites were restored marshes and two were natural reference marshes. Due to many exigencies, the data on fish and food webs was not studied and analyzed and remains on file at the San Francisco Estuary Institute.

The purpose of this project is to fund analyses of the fish and food web data and from those analyses produce one or more reports and/or journal manuscripts developed specifically to support ERP management efforts for the Delta. The current project will analyze, interpret, and report on the fish, invertebrate, primary productivity, and nutrient data and complete the integrated analysis linking all the pieces of IRWM together. The overall goal is to gain as much insight as possible from the IRWM field data on the nature and extent to which tidal marsh restoration can be identified to contribute to ecological support for native resident and migratory fishes through direct provision of habitats and through provision of high quality productivity.

ABAG/SFEP will contract with DFG and provide contract management and financial services. We will subcontract with partners to complete the studies including Wetlands and Water Resources (\$ 110,000), a long time SFEP collaborator, led by wetland scientist, Dr. Stuart Siegel; US Geological Survey (\$200,000); San Francisco State University (\$ 35,000), and Georgia Southern University (\$20,000). No project match is required.

Recommended Action

Authorization is requested for the Executive Director or designee to enter into a new contract on behalf of ABAG/SFEP with the California Dept. of Fish and Game for the IRWM Analysis Project and to subcontract with the partners listed above. The total contract amount is currently \$ 420,000 and the contract term from October 1, 2010 for three years. Funds for this contract are from the Dept. of Fish & Game. The Executive Board is also requested to approve the attached resolution for this project. This project serves as implementation of the SFEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).

Attachment: Draft Resolution

Item 6.H.

**ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10

**AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO AND
ACCEPT CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH
AND GAME**

WHEREAS, the Department of Fish and Game provides resources to support the Ecosystem Restoration Program; and

WHEREAS, The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/San Francisco Estuary Partnership(SFEP) is prepared to assist the Department of Fish and Game through a multi-year contract supporting the following work:

1. The CALFED Science Program initiated the \$3.7 million Integrated Regional Wetland Monitoring (IRWM) Pilot Project in 2003. IRWM undertook an intensive two-year field data collection program at six tidal marsh sites from the western Delta to the Petaluma River, spanning a large segment of the Estuary's salinity gradient. Four sites were restored marshes and two were natural reference marshes. Due to many exigencies, the data on fish and food webs was not studied and analyzed and remains on file at the San Francisco Estuary Institute.
2. The current project will analyze, interpret, and report on the fish, invertebrate, primary productivity, and nutrient data and complete the integrated analysis linking all the pieces of IRWM together. The overall goal is to gain as much insight as possible from the IRWM field data on the nature and extent to which tidal marsh restoration can be identified to contribute to ecological support for native resident and migratory fishes through direct provision of habitats and through provision of high quality productivity.

**ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO. 08-10**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments hereby authorizes the Executive Director, or designee, to negotiate and enter into a multi-year contract and any amendments thereto, with the Department of Fish and Game not to exceed \$420,000 in support of the IRWM studies; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director, or designee, to negotiate and execute contracts and agreements to implement the contract in accordance with its scope of work.

The foregoing adopted by the Executive Board this 20th day of May, 2010.

Mark Green
President

Certification of Executive Board Approval

I, the undersigned, the appointed and qualified Secretary-Treasurer of the Association of Bay Area Governments (Association), do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the Association at a duly called meeting held on the 20th day of May, 2010.

Henry L. Gardner
Secretary-Treasurer

Approved as To Legal Form

Kenneth K. Moy
Legal Counsel